



U.S. Department of Justice

Antitrust Division

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*Liberty Square Building*

*450 5<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001*

August 4, 2016

The Honorable Denise L. Cote  
United States District Judge  
Courtroom 15B  
Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse  
500 Pearl Street  
New York, NY 10007-1312

**VIA ECF**

Re: *United States of America v. American Society of Composers,  
Authors and Publishers*, Case No. 41-01395 (DLC)

Dear Judge Cote:

As you may be aware, in 2014 the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice initiated an investigation into the possibility of proposing certain modifications to the ASCAP consent decree (as well as the consent decree applying to BMI). I write to provide an update on that process. Today, the Antitrust Division released a Statement declining to support any modifications to the ASCAP or BMI consent decrees at this time. That Statement is attached. The Division is available to answer any questions Your Honor may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelsey W. Shannon", written over a horizontal line.

Kelsey W. Shannon